

Out of a crowd of thirty-four gamblers who were brought before Mr. Wise today, only two admitted that they had not gone to the gambling house "to look for a friend." Two of the gamblers were convicted of keeping a common gaming house and the others of gambling there. Presumably on account of the number of the defendants and the severity of the punishment, Mr. Wise did not double the usual penalty as he did the other day, the first and second defendants being fined \$25 each and the remainder of the crowd \$5 each. Every one of the fines was promptly paid.

Mr. Robinson, instructed by Messrs. Douglas and Mosson, moved, before the Acting Chief Justice this afternoon, for a writ of Habeas Corpus, under Section 11 of Ordinance 26 of 1889, to have Li Ng, otherwise Man Loong, brought before the Court. The prisoner, who was committed by Mr. Wise, pending the orders of the Governor, on the 14th instant, was charged on the evidence of an accomplice with piracy and murder in September 1890. Mr. Robinson read affidavits showing that the prisoner was at that time in Hongkong and had been resident here since the beginning of 1889. The Chief Justice adjourned the hearing of the motion till Tuesday next at 10.30, and stated that he thought advice should be filed showing what steps the Magistrate had taken to ascertain how long the prisoner had been living in Hongkong and what report he had made to the Governor on this point.

Five men were brought before Mr. Wise today charged with assaulting a Chinese seaman on board the s.s. *Independent* on the 17th inst. and robbing him of \$40. The complainant said he had been paid off with \$13.50 on the previous day, and of course he at once began to gamble. He lost \$2.10 to the first defendant and paid him. The first defendant indignantly declared that the amount lost was \$32.40 and demanded the balance. The complainant refused to pay. Then the defendant got him over to Yau-mai took him away among the hills and bound him to a tree. The first defendant took \$40 from him and told him he must either pay some more money at once or sign a promissory note. At last the complainant promised to release him on his promising to get the money at once in Hongkong. On getting across the water the complainant managed to let the police know what was the matter. Such was the complainant's story, but as there was not sufficient evidence to sustain the charge of robbery, his Worship fined the defendants \$5 each and ordered them to pay an equal amount each to the complainant as compensation.

A case which is suggestive of the early part of the story of Joseph and his brethren came before Mr. Wise in the Police Court today. Two youths named Pu Pu and Ng Fat Chai were charged with fraudulently enticing or deceiving from the colony for an unlawful purpose a boy of eleven, named Chan Hing Yang, the son of a rice planter. From this evidence it appeared that the two defendants suggested to an elder brother of the little boy, a lad of fourteen, that they might make some money by selling his younger brother. The scheme was agreed to and promptly carried into execution. The youngster was taken over to Yau-mai and was there sold to the wife of a large boat master for \$50. He was unwilling to become the property of the stranger, and his fourteen-year-old brother told him quietly that if he did not like life on a cargo boat he might jump overboard at the first opportunity. As the transaction was soon discovered he was saved from the necessity of adopting this risky means of escape. The elder boy on going home succeeded in skillfully parrying the maternal questions about his brother, and he apparently thought it was only fair that his mother should get a share of the proceeds from the sale of her own offspring, so he gave her two dollars, explaining that he had picked the money-up on the street. The two defendants admitted the charge and were sentenced to six months' hard labour each. As regards the brother of the boy who had been sold, Mr. Wise advised his father to spank him when he got home, which advice the man said would assuredly be followed.

Bankers in Persia.—The progress made by the Imperial Bank of Persia is the subject of the following interesting paragraph in the *Sunday Times*:—"The Imperial Bank of Persia is making steady progress, and we understand that its notes are becoming more popular every day. The *Bulletin de la Banque Commerciale* states that it does not countenance at 15 per cent, whilst it pays 6 per cent for money for a term of six or twelve months. The 'bazar' bankers (bazaar) on the other hand, pay against country paper at 12 per cent for the money lent, whilst they let it out at 25 per cent per annum. Money-lenders who take weekly interest are by no means rare in Persia; the rate of interest is about 12 per cent. The Imperial Bank of Persia has, therefore, great opportunities and ought to obtain brilliant results. The interest rate of 12 per cent is a moderate one, and in fact, the community from the Persian and the habits and the character of all sorts. 'Rouba the Samarra' there is much more than an interesting word; indeed, it is a word which bears a subordinate part in it."

THE SCOTCH CENSUS OF SCOTLAND.—The Scotch census returns issued on Friday show the total population of Scotland, including the shipping in Scotch waters, to be 4,033,103 persons, of whom 1,301,461 are males and 2,081,624 females. These numbers, when compared with the year 1881, show an increase of 237,539; the male increase being 161,086 and the female 144,544. The percentage of increase of the population of Scotland during the decennium was 18.36; that of the males 18.45 and of the females 18.25. The population of Glasgow is given at 607,714, as compared with 511,415 in 1881. Edinburgh is given at 201,261, as compared with 234,402 ten years ago.

The jubilee volume of Punch was completed with the number which appeared on June 24. Our excellent contemporary came into existence in the summer of 1841, and during the half-century that has since elapsed has steadily increased in popularity. In its early days Punch commanded the services of some of the most brilliant wits and trenchant satirists of the time. Thackeray, Tom Hood, Jerome K. Jerome, and many others were among the names associated with this characteristic development of the numerous side of English life.

Some surprise, the Berlin correspondent of the *Standard* says, is felt in diplomatic circles here that the two respected German circles have almost entirely ignored the recent conflict between Roman and Greek Catholic priests at Bethlehem. Their silence, however, appears to arise not from neglect, but from a desire to maintain a design on the part of Germany. It is anticipated that ere long the Russian provinces of France will lead her to neglect the interests of the Roman Catholic priests and her protection in Palestine. When that moment arrives Germany will put forward claims similar to those she has made in China some time ago.

ITALIANS AND THE ARGENTINE REPUBLIC.—Private advices from Buenos Ayres state that the Italian colonists are taking position which is likely to have a marked influence upon the course of affairs in the Argentine Republic. Having suffered from the suspension of the National and Provincial Banks, in which their deposits are locked up, and having been told that neither the Argentine Government nor the Argentine people will put them right again, they have become ardent partisans of European influence in Argentine finance. This should make the Bank account which is now being elaborated in London. W. (the *Financial News*) understands that, before being called by Dr. V. de la Plaza to his Government, this account is about to be submitted to the leading German and French financiers, which will go to the Argentine Government backed by the majority of European financial houses, while in execution will be superintended by European delegates.

A NEW THEORY.—It is an old theory that water always flows level. How does that theory square with a new one? Professor H. B. Stewart, who is now at the Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia, lately drew attention to recent observations of the attraction of the moon for the water which swelled them, the result being to elevate the water along their shore lines much above the level of the sea a long distance from the land. According to this, a ship is sailing up hill when approaching land, and sailing down hill when sailing away. He asserted that at the mid-Atlantic Ocean the surface of the sea was 3,000 feet nearer the centre of the earth than on the continental borders. It may be inferred, though the professor did not say so, that the water level is a comparatively flat surface, and that such attractions would result in lowering tide levels on neighbouring shores.

In the House of Commons on the 26th June, Sir J. F. Stephen, in answer to Lord H. Russell, who asked a question with regard to the looking of the British barque *Flodden* by Chinese, said the Chinese had formed the subject of instructions to her Majesty's Minister at Peking, and that the subject of repeated representations to the Chinese Government. These representations have not, however, hitherto resulted in any grant of compensation. The Chinese Government have not admitted their liability to make compensation, and have refused to pay a fine for the damage done by the barque. The Chinese Government have not admitted their liability to make compensation, and have refused to pay a fine for the damage done by the barque. The Chinese Government have not admitted their liability to make compensation, and have refused to pay a fine for the damage done by the barque.

A LONDON PUBLISHER in it is said, going to issue in due course an English edition of a remarkable book by an American writer, the Rev. William Elliot Griffis. Dr. Griffis may possibly be known to some of our readers as the author of the *Imperial Bank of Persia*, a work which has been deemed worthy of translation into Japanese, and of which Inazo Nitobe, an author and critic of high repute, has written most appreciative notices, as by far the best book on Persia ever written by an American. What gives particular value to Dr. Griffis's writings, and notably to his recent work, *Honda the Samurai*, which is in the form of an historical romance, is that he is the only living American, who saw the Japanese feudal system in operation, and witnessed its collapse and final end. Before the great change had taken place, Dr. Griffis lived in a domain on the coast, and as an organizer of a large number of young men, he became acquainted with hundreds of youths and their fathers at a time when all were the sword and the bow, and the life was a life of constant warfare and living in a feudal system, and in fact, the community from the Persian and the habits and the character of all sorts. 'Rouba the Samarra' there is much more than an interesting word; indeed, it is a word which bears a subordinate part in it."

SUPREME COURT. IN ORIGINAL JURISDICTION.

(Before Mr. E. J. Acheson, Acting Chief Justice.)

Thursday, 30th July.

TANG YUNG MAU v. TANG SHANG.—A DECEASED WILL.

Mr. Francis and Mr. Phillips appeared for Mr. Tang Yung Mau, the plaintiff; Mr. J. H. and Mr. Robinson, instructed by Messrs. Watson and Dawson, appeared for the defendant.

The hearing was resumed to-day. Dr. Rital said he had made a particular study of inscriptions on Chinese tombstones since this case came on. Shown a copy of an inscription on a tombstone at Weng-cheng, witness said it was the ordinary kind of inscription that would be put on the tomb where the bones of unknown persons found in the course of excavation were interred. Witness was familiar with Chinese funeral rites. The chief mourner at a funeral was always the heir. There were certain functions which could not be performed by any one except this one person. Purchasing the water to wash the body was one of these functions. Carrying the staff at the funeral was another. Witness was familiar with the manner of carrying the staff at the funeral. Some of these records went back as far as 2,000 B.C. The reason for which they were kept was a very practical one, because every candidate for the literary examination had to know the genealogical record of his family.

Mr. Francis objected to any questions being asked with reference to a genealogical record of the Tang family, as the book was not in evidence. He also objected to the plaintiff's evidence in relation to the history was traced from the time that it came into the defendant's possession, a matter in connection with which the defendant, he remarked, had told deliberate lies. His Lordship declined to admit the book in question as no evidence had been given to show how any of the entries in the book had been made.

The case was again adjourned.

CHRISTIAN MISSIONS IN CHINA.

There is going on in the columns of *Truth* a discussion on the value of Christian missions in China, which is interesting at the present moment when the same question has been raised at the very centre of operations.

Mr. Labouchere, who rather enjoys a quiet snort at missionaries, writes:—

The week before last I published extracts from a letter from a gentleman in China which drew a striking contrast between the Roman Catholic and Protestant missions in that country. The work of the former—at any rate as far as the treaty ports are concerned—is a failure, if not an imposture. Numbers of the letters which I have received in reply but not many of them are much to the point. Here, however, is one which has the force of authority, and which at the same time directly traverses the assertions of my previous correspondent. I publish it, therefore, not only with the object of giving the reader a fair view of the subject, but also as an illustration of the contradictions which beset this subject.

Bristol, June 12, 1891.

Sir,—My attention has been directed to some remarks on the subject of Chinese Missions in the current number of *Truth*. As I returned this week from a visit to the Mission stations of one of our societies in the course of which, with a colleague, I stayed five months in China and travelled 1,800 miles in the interior, and saw the work of many societies in the interior, I feel it my duty to say a few words in reply to your remarks on the other side.

The work is a tedious, weary, and very far from being a failure, as you seem to me the least productive of all mission work in China. I can understand how a native Christian, just as many in London have never seen a member of the Salvation Army. But the Christians are there to be seen.

In the interior great progress seems to have been made in the face of insuperable difficulties. Our Mission numbers over 1,500 members in Shanghai, fourteen of whom are employed by us. They are scattered in 150 different villages and small towns, and the diffusion of the Gospel is achieved slowly but steadily by the work of the converts themselves. We saw hundreds of them. The American Presbyterian Mission in Shanghai numbers three and four thousand converts. Since the Chinese Government has not admitted their liability to make compensation, and have refused to pay a fine for the damage done by the barque. The Chinese Government have not admitted their liability to make compensation, and have refused to pay a fine for the damage done by the barque.

Nearly 4,000 converts at members are associated with various Protestant missionary societies, and so far as an outsider like myself can judge, the mass of these men and women—chiefly men—of strong convictions and worthy character, is a creditable and useful body. It does not seem to your friend who professed Christianity was a thief. The treaty ports seem to me to gather the worst sort of Chinamen, on the principle of *caracas* and *egg*. Then the first to attack directly to the Chinese people, and the best of the natives the worst from plauding natives; the best from that pursuit of truth which is not rare, even in China, and which leads them in large numbers to accept the Gospel and to help to the attainment of future rest.

I can gladly assent to the eulogiums passed on Catholic missions. We saw many Catholic missionaries—men and women who are worthy of sincere regard of each person from China. But I think it would be a profound mistake to adopt their methods. The Protestant missionary appeal is to reason and his demand is for a greater degree than the Catholic missions appeal for and require these things.

The wives of the missionaries, as a rule, do splendid work in China. The English wife is an object of reverence to the Chinese, and she has no shadow in the matter of husbands, and occupy a position of painful inferiority.

We found no mission station in our journey which was not a centre of fine philanthropic activity, especially in the interior. And it would be a pity for China that saw a class of men of high integrity and goodness taken away from a land so richly supplied with such.

I therefore, Sir, submit that your readers would act wisely in not drawing too sweeping a conclusion from what your friend did not see—perhaps because he did not look for it.—I remain, Sir, yours truly,

Richard Groves.

Minister of Tyndale College, Bristol.

This is explicit enough, but, on the other hand, I have received some enthusiastic confirmation of the views of my original correspondent. A gentleman who has re-

side for many years in China, and who declares himself a sincere Protestant, writes:—

A residence of many years in China enables me unhesitatingly to confirm the opinion expressed in your last week's issue of the comparative progress of the Protestant and Catholic missions in the Far East. The latter go out from Europe fully understanding that they leave their country for good. They adopt the native dress—even to the pig-tail. They submit to many severe and painful labours (23s. and 32s. per month). They live in miserable dwellings. Fish, cabbage, and rice form their ordinary diet. Indeed, they are so far from being able to recognize their nationality, that without recognizing their nationality, they are as good as dead.

The whole system of working by the Roman Catholics is attractive to the native. The buildings for worship are handsome and internally the priests identify themselves with the people. They are assiduous in helping the poor, in healing the sick. Their knowledge of medicine and surgery is invaluable. The Protestant, on the other hand, as a rule, is an entirely different order. Absolutely devoted men there are, doubtless, among them, men of high attainments and eminently 'missionary' in their true sense of the word; but the majority are of the 'missionary' type. Speaking generally, they have large salaries, enjoy life-ride to carriage, play tennis, dine out, get an annual holiday at the seaside, at Chelsea, or in the Riviera. If sick, they take refuge in a seaside or hill-top sanatorium. They get a year or a year and a half out of every seven or eight at home. They are assisted by a large number of 'native' missionaries, who are very different from the 'missionary' type. They have large salaries, enjoy life-ride to carriage, play tennis, dine out, get an annual holiday at the seaside, at Chelsea, or in the Riviera. If sick, they take refuge in a seaside or hill-top sanatorium. They get a year or a year and a half out of every seven or eight at home. They are assisted by a large number of 'native' missionaries, who are very different from the 'missionary' type.

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The American base-ball invasion was another score which lasted for a short time, but it has no effect on cricket. Golf, in spite of the 'churn' mentioned to it, will not affect this. The base-ball craze, although it may eventually take a firm hold amongst us, is very difficult to tell how cricket will be played at the end of the next century. When we reflect on the trifling changes that have taken place in the last fifty years, it appears probable that the law of the game will not be so much altered as we are led to believe. I firmly believe that in 1901 cricket will be played as it is to-day, and that it will for ever retain the title of our national game.

RUSSIAN JEWS AND THEIR PERSECUTIONS.

The Times of 16th June writes:—Five of the ten millions of Jews who inhabit Russia reside in the Caucasus. The Russian Empire, and for nearly twelve miles has the largest number of the Hebrew race has been subjected to a cruel and inhuman persecution. Throughout the world their sufferings have been deeply marked by the sufferings of the Jews. In spite of the severity of the persecutions, the Jews have known how to gather a mass of well-authenticated facts, which show only too clearly how the persecutions have been a great blessing to the Jews. The Jews have a great Christian Church, suffers its sufferings to treat five millions of his own subjects, who are of the Jewish race, of the creed into which the Jews have been baptized. He is the founder of the Jewish Church, and he has brought these facts to the knowledge of the world. Europe has read of them with shuddering surprise. The details and the excesses of Russian agents and the persecutions of the Jews, have failed to shake the charges brought forward by the Jews. The public opinion of the free world, and most of all the public opinion of England, the first and most powerful of the oppressors of the rights of conscience, has heard and determined the cause. It has pronounced the persecutions proven, and will hereafter rank the persecutions of the Jews as one of the most heinous crimes of the nineteenth century. Under the enlightened sway of Alexander III., the persecution of the Jews of the Peninsula of the Spanish Inquisition, and the persecution of the French Jews, who have been the victims of the persecutions of the Jews, have been the victims of the persecutions of the Jews.

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